

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

--The above-described control means of the digital camera according to the present invention is featured in that the control means increases the gain amount of the ~~high-sensitive~~high-sensitivity image signal and decreases the gain amount of the ~~low-sensitive~~low-sensitivity image signal when the diaphragm is set to an open side, whereas the control means decreases the gain amount of the ~~high-sensitive~~high-sensitivity image signal and increases the gain amount of the ~~low-sensitive~~low-sensitivity image signal when the diaphragm is set to a small-stop side.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

--The above-described control means of the digital camera according to the present invention is featured in that when the control means increases the gain amount of the ~~low-sensitive~~low-sensitivity image signal, the control means decreases a synthesizing ratio of the ~~low-sensitive~~low-sensitivity image signal which is synthesized with the ~~high-sensitive~~high-sensitivity image signal.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

--A digital camera capable of achieving the above-explained second object is featured by comprising: a diaphragm for controlling an amount of incident light; a solid-state imaging element for receiving the incident light which has

passed through the diaphragm, in which a plurality of pixels are arranged in an array shape, and each of the pixels is divided into a main pixel having a large area and a sub-pixel having a small area by an element separating band deviated from a center of the pixel; synthesizing process means for synthesizing a high-sensitivity image signal read from the main pixel of each of the pixels with a low-sensitivity image signal read from the sub-pixel; and control means operated in such a manner that when the synthesizing process means performs the synthesizing operation of the image signals, the smaller a stop amount of the diaphragm becomes, the smaller a synthesizing ratio of the ~~low-sensitive~~low-sensitivity image signal with respect to the ~~high-sensitive~~high-sensitivity image signal is decreased.—

Please replace the paragraph listed on page9, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED ~~EMBODIMENT~~EMBODIMENT--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page9, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

--The digital still camera shown in Fig. 1 is equipped with a photographing lens 10, a solid-state imaging element 11, a diaphragm 12 provided between both the imaging lens 10 and the solid-state imaging element 11, an ~~inferred~~infrared-ray cutting filter 13, and an optical low-pass filter 14. A CPU 15 which controls an entire unit of the digital still camera controls both a light emitting unit 16 and a light receiving unit 17 for an electronic flash unit (not shown). Also, the CPU 15 controls a lens driving unit 18 so as to adjust a

position of the photographing lens 10 to a focusing position, and controls an aperture amount of the diaphragm 12 via a diaphragm driving unit 19 in order that an exposure amount becomes a proper exposure amount.--